



Publication number:

0 473 913 A2

12

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

21 Application number: 91111894.1

51 Int. Cl. 5: G06F 9/46

22 Date of filing: 17.07.91

30 Priority: 04.09.90 US 576583

33 Date of publication of application:
11.03.92 Bulletin 92/11

34 Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB

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54 Method and apparatus for providing a service pool of virtual machines for a plurality of VM users.

57 A system for providing a service pool of virtual machines (12 - 18) to a plurality of system virtual machine users (20). A host processor (10) creates through a control program (CP) a pool of virtual machines. A firmware configured AVS gateway is connected over an SNA to a plurality of work stations (20). A request from a work station is assigned to one of the service pool machines based on the specific transaction being completed. The ID of the requesting work station is assigned to the selected virtual machine. The assigned virtual machine completes its transaction with the work station and is then free to service other requests.

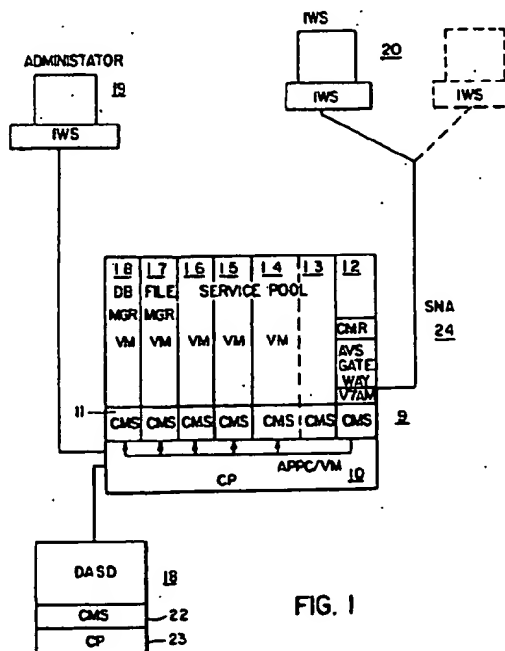


FIG. 1

